

Delta Levee Board Workshop

Crystal Thomas

Reading and Vocabulary

Introduction

Ask the students if they know what a levee is or have ever seen one. Tell the students today we will be learning about levees. Tell them learning about the levees is important not just because of the past flooding Mississippi has had, but also because it protects the valleys from the flood waters of the Mississippi River. Let the students know that by the end of today's lesson, they will be able to create a graphic organizer of each vocabulary word with illustrations, syllables, use the word in a sentence, and definitions.

Lesson

Begin by giving the students some basic facts on the levee. Next read the book The Last Scream about the flood of 1927. Stop and discuss the following vocabulary words as we come to them: levee, crest, sand boil, tributary, and drainage.

Independent Practice

The students will be given a worksheet with the vocabulary words from the book on side A and the definitions of side B. The students will be told to match the definition to the word they feel is correct. Once the students have completed this, we will discuss the correct answers. The students will be allowed to change their answers.

Culmination

The students will given 1 index card with the word True written on one side and the word False written on the other. I will ask the students a series of questions dealing with the lesson. They will respond by raising the correct true or false paddle. Discuss the students' answers.

Assessment

Each student will be given a sheet with 5 graphic organizers. On each organizer is a vocabulary word we discussed earlier. The student will be responsible for completing the graphic organizer. They will be allowed to use their worksheet from earlier.

Definitions for worksheet

Levee-a natural or artificial slope or wall to regulate water levels

Crest-the highest level above a certain point (the datum point, or reference point) that a river will reach in a certain amount of time

Tributary-is a stream or river which flows into a main stem (or parent) river or a lake.

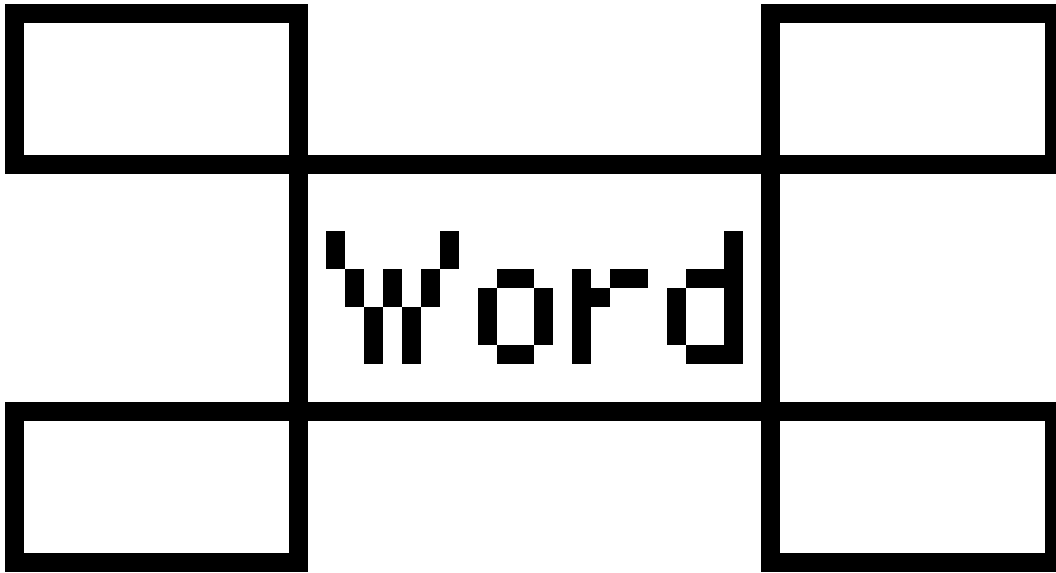
Drainage-the natural or artificial removal of surface and sub-surface water from an area

Sand boil-occur when water under pressure wells up through a bed of sand. The water looks like it is "boiling" up from the bed of sand, hence the name.

Questions for True/False session

1. The Mississippi River travels from northern Chicago to the Gulf of Mexico.
False
2. The Mississippi is the longest river in North America.
True
3. The river begins 2,000 feet above sea level.
False
4. The Mississippi is a major flyway for migratory birds.
True
5. At 7:15 on the morning of April 21 1999, the mainline Mississippi River levee broke.
False

Example of graphic organizer



Illustration/definition

**use the word in a
sentence/syllable**

Worksheet

Directions: Draw a line from part a to its correct definition in part b.

Part A.

Part B

Crest

Occurs when water under pressure wells up through a bed of sand

Sand boil

a natural or artificial slope or wall to regulate water levels

Levee

natural or artificial removal of surface from an area

Tributary

is a stream or river which flows into a main stem river or a lake.

Drainage

the highest level above a certain point that a river will reach in a certain amount

Objectives:

1. The student will use word recognition and vocabulary (word meaning) skills to communicate

*c. The student will develop and apply **expansive** knowledge of words and word meanings to communicate*

Resources:

www.mde.k12.ms.us

www.wikipedia.com